

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HM-692PCT

Applicant(s) : Holger Behrens, et al

Serial No. : NOT YET KNOWN (PCT/EP04/06479)

Int. Filed : June 16, 2004

For : DEVICE FOR HOT DIP COATING A METAL STRIP

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

In advance of the first office action, please amend the  
claims as follows: